EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1.   An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or

additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR

1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the

payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with

Chris Holt on 12 May 2008.

The application has been amended as follows:

Please CANCEL claims 9-11, 13-14, 17 and 20-30 and amend the following,

1. (Currently Amended)   A method of training a paraphrase processing system,

comprising:

i. accessing a plurality of documents;

ii. identifying, from the plurality of documents, a cluster of related texts that are written

by different authors about a common subject, wherein the related texts are further identified as

being from different news agencies and about a common event;

iii. receiving the cluster of related texts;

iv. selecting a set of text segments from the cluster, wherein selecting comprises grouping

desired text segments of the related texts into a set of related text segments;

v. using textual alignment to identify paraphrase relationships between texts in the text

segments included in the set of related text segments; and

vi. wherein textual alignment comprises:

using statistical textual alignment to align words in the text segments in

the set; and

identifying the paraphrase relationships based on the aligned words.

12. (Currently Amended)   The method of claim 1 wherein identifying a cluster of related texts comprises identifying texts written within a predetermined time of one another.

15. (Currently Amended)   The method of claim 1 wherein grouping desired text segments comprises grouping a first predetermined number of sentences of each news article in each cluster into the set of related text segments.

Conclusion

2.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to JUSTIN W. RIDER whose telephone number is (571)270-1068. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday 8:30AM - 5:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David R. Hudspeth can be reached on (571) 272-7843. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to

the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-

1000.

/J. W. R./
Examiner, Art Unit 2626
13 May 2008
        /David R Hudspeth/
        Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2626